

Message Text

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SUBJ: AYEC 1976/77 PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY: CAO AND ACAO MET WITH AYEC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY RUKAVINA LAST WEEK TO TRY FIND AREA OF COMPROMISE ON TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS SO CURRENT IMPASSE COULD BE RESOLVED. NO PROGRESS MADE IN THAT DIRECTION: HOWEVER, MEETING WAS USEFUL IN ILLUSTRATING YUGOSLAV SIDE'S INTENTIONS AND REASONING.

2. RUKAVINA BEGAN BY QUESTIONING BFS AUTHORITY OVER FULBRIGHT PROGRAM, THEN WENT ON TO BLAME IMBALANCE IN GRANTS TO YUGOSLAVS FOR AY 1976/77 ON PROGRAM AGENCIES SINCE THEY HAD NOT PLACED ALL CANDIDATES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES BUT HAD PLACED ALL THOSE IN SCIENCE. (HE UTTERLY DISREGARDED FACT THAT AYEC BOARD HAD RECOMMENDED TWICE AS MANY CANDIDATES IN SCIENCE AS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE). HE NOTED THAT TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS IN AY 76/77 PROPOSAL HAD BEEN UNSPECIFIED AS TO FIELD; THEREFORE COMMISSION HAD NO CONTROL OVER DISTRIBUTION OF THESE GRANTS AMONG DISCIPLINES.

3. RUKAVINA STATED THAT FULBRIGHT PROGRAM IS SUPPOSED TO SUIT NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF BOTH SIDES. YUGOSLAV INTEREST WAS IN SCIENCE AS PROFESSOR BLINTZ HAD POINTED OUT AT APRIL BOARD MEETING. YUGOSLAV UNIVERSITIES REGARD FULBRIGHT

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PROGRAM AS ADJUNCT TO THEIR DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND METHOD

OF TRAINING PROFESSORIAL CADRE. THUS THEY WANT TO SEND SCIENTISTS TO US, NOT SPECIALISTS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE.

3. CAO REPLIED BY NOTING THAT BFS INDEED HAS DECISIVE ROLE IN SELECTION AND POLICY MAKING PROCESS. IMBALANCE IN AY 76/77 GRANTS NOT THE FAULT OF PROGRAM AGENCIES BUT OF AYEC BOARD WHICH DID NOT FOLLOW THE PROGRAM PROPOSAL THEY THEMSELVES HAD PROPOSED. TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS HAD BEEN UNSPECIFIED, BUT AS THEY WERE THE ONLY UNCOMMITTED PART OF PROGRAM, AYEC BOARD HAD OBLIGATION TO AWARD THEM IN SUCH A WAY AS TO BALANCE PROGRAM, NOT IMBALANCE IT EVEN FURTHER.

4. CAO POINTED OUT THERE GREAT DANGER US SIDE WOULD LOSE INTEREST IN, AND THEREFORE CUT ITS FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO, PROGRAM DEVOTED SO HEAVILY TO SCIENCES. CAO AWARE OF YUGOSLAV INTEREST IN SCIENCE: HOWEVER, IF SOCIAL SCIENCES ONLY REPRESENTED ON US SIDE OF PROGRAM AND SCIENCE ON YUGOSLAV SIDE, THIS COULD HARDLY BE CONSIDERED AN "EXCHANGE" PROGRAM. FURTHER, PURPOSE OF PROGRAM WAS TO INCREASE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING. THIS COULD BEST BE ACHIEVED, CONSIDERING LOW LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE OF YUGOSLAVIA IN US, BY SENDING YUGOSLAV SOCIAL SCIENTISTS TO US, NOT CHEMISTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

5. CAO NOTED THAT BFSHAD WARNED COMMISSION SEVERAL TIMES ABOUT PROGRAM BALANCE. COMMISSION HAD AGREED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS IN AY 1976/77 PROGRAM. ACTUAL SELECTION OF GRANTEES, HOWEVER, DID NOT REVERSE EARLIER PATTERN. BFS HAD AGAIN REGISTERED ITS DISPLEASURE AND STATED THAT IT APPROVED AY 76/77 PROGRAM ONLY ON CONDITION AYEC IMPROVED ITS PERFORMANCE WITH REGARD TO PROGRAM BALANCE. NOW YUGOSLAV SIDE WANTS TO SUBMIT LIST OF TRAVEL ONLY GRANTEES EVEN MORE HEAVILY WEIGHTED IN FAVOR OF SCIENCES. THIS IS NOT KEEPING GOOD FAITH WITH BFS AND IT NO WONDER IF BFS REFUSES TO GO ALONG WITH THIS. USG NOT OBLIGED TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING PROGRAM WHICH DOES NOT SUIT ITS INTERESTS. IF NECESSARY, OTHER MEANS THAN AYEC COULD BE FOUND THROUGH WHICH PROGRAM COULD BE RUN. US SIDE DOES NOT WANT TO SEE AYEC PROGRAM CUT BACK. HOWEVER, BOTH SIDES HAVE OBLIGATION TO COOPERATE TO MAKE THE EXCHANGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROGRAM WORK.

6. RUKAVINA WARNED THAT US SIDE IS CHOOSING AN "INAPPROPRIATE MOMENT" IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES TO DISRUPT THE PROGRAM AND TO INSIST ON 50/50 BALANCE. PRESENTING ULTIMATUMS WILL NOT WORK. CAO NOTED THAT HIS STATEMENT NOT AN ULTIMATUM, MERELY A DESCRIPTION OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF COMMISSION FAILED TO CARRY OUT PROGRAM

PROPOSAL AND CONTINUED TO DISREGARD BFS WISHES ON QUESTION OF PROGRAM BALANCE. HAVING TOLD BFS EARLIER THAT IT WOULD GIVE MORE PRIORITY TO SOCIAL SCIENCES, COMMISSION MUST NOW LIVE UP TO ITS WORD. CAO ASKED RUKAVINA TO USE SAME ZEAL AND PERSUASIVENESS IN PRESENTING US POINT OF VIEW TO YUGOSLAV SIDE AS HE HAD SHOWN IN PRESENTING YUGOSLAV POINT OF VIEW TO AMERICANS.

7. COMMENT: RUKAVINA'S STATEMENT THAT UNIVERSITIES REGARD FULBRIGHT PROGRAM AS ADJUNCT THEIR DEVELOPMENT PLANS REVEALS EXTENT TO WHICH GOY HAS COME TO REGARD PROGRAM, AND USG SUPPORT OF IT, AS SOMETHING THEY CAN TAKE FOR GRANTED AND CAN CONTROL. IT OBVIOUS THAT QUESTION OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, ALTHOUGH STATED AS THE PURPOSE OF THE EXCHANGE IN THE BASIC AGREEMENT, FARTHEST THING FROM YUGOSLAV MINDS IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY APPARENTLY FEELS SO CONFIDENT OF HIS POSITION (AND FUTURE TENURE IN OFFICE) THAT HE MAKES NO PRETENSE AT NEUTRALITY BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES OF THE COMMISSION. NOR DOES HE SEEM TO SEE ANOMALY OF HIS LECTURING BFS AND DEPARTMENT ON HOW THEY SHOULD BEHAVE (TO SAY NOTHING OF US MEMBERS OF AYEC). FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF PROGRAM BALANCE OR TRAVEL ONLY GRANTS AT THIS POINT WOULD SEEM FUTILE. US SIDE THEREFORE PROPOSES LET MATTER REST UNTIL YUGOSLAV SIDE BRINGS IT UP IN FALL.
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